

who predicted that from Pestalozzi's institute would come the regeneration of the German nation. Fichte's own *Reden an die deutsche nation* is an educational classic, and his influence in Germany is perceptible to this day. What Professor Hallberg has to say is far too brief to be exhaustive, but it is very instructive so far as it goes.

#### THE MODERN MUSEUM.

THE Prince of Wales, in a letter to the lord-mayor of London under date of Sept. 13, proposes the formation of a permanent museum, to represent the arts, the manufactures, and the commerce of the queen's colonial and Indian empire, as a fitting memorial of the queen's jubilee. In the London *Spectator* of Sept. 25 is an article upon the Prince of Wales's idea, which brings out so prominently the advantages of the modern museum, that we quote from it extensively below. The *Spectator* refers to the difficulty of treating as a whole the English colonies and the English dependencies; but, as diversity is so singular a character of the empire, it ought certainly to be reflected in any such institute. The Prince of Wales points out especially the advantage of such an institution in stimulating and efficiently directing emigration by giving to those frequenting it a more correct picture of the lands to which they might have thought of going. Again, it is almost needless to point out the commercial advantages of a permanent museum of the products of the empire, for it would serve the purpose of advertising, which is an essential of mercantile progress; but, as said, the prince is probably right in putting emigration first of all in his list of benefits.

Emigration, wisely undertaken, is an unmixed blessing to the working-classes. It gives the man who emigrates the opportunity which no man can ever be quite content till he has had, whether he fails or not, — the opportunity of making a fortune, and of emerging from the dullness of the ranks of life. It gives to the workman who stays that relief from the pressure of competition which he so much needs. With these results before them, people of the upper class constantly wonder how it is the workingmen are not more eager about emigration, and in general can only be induced to adopt it as a final resort from misery. They argue, "In our rank of life, the younger sons all emigrate," and call to mind the not unfrequent cases where, out of a family of six, four will have left England. "We do it easily enough," they say; "why, then, won't the workingmen, where the pressure is so much greater and the in-

ducements comparatively so much higher?" The answer, of course, rests in the fact that the one class of men know geography, and the other do not. The young man who determines to go to Florida knows where Florida is, and, before he chooses it, has been able to picture to himself, by the information he has the means of getting easily, the kind of life he will have to lead. The notion has no nameless, shapeless, unknowable terrors for him. He has seen plenty of Americans, and knows that they are like other men, and that, but for the banishment from England, he will be happy enough. So, too, with the woman of education who accompanies her husband when he emigrates: she has not that physical dread of an awful existence, with no relation to previous experiences of life, which is so often to be witnessed among the women of the poor. With the artisan, or at any rate with the laborer and his wife, it is just the reverse. They have not the means of obtaining knowledge by which to compare the various lands that invite emigration. They are quite unable to acquaint themselves, or to grow familiar, with the idea of the new social and material conditions that await them. Thus their ignorance of the colonies allows the wildest notions of misery and discomfort to take possession of them, — notions that practically forbid them emigrating, except in case of severe pecuniary pressure. They will seldom emigrate to better themselves; only do it, in fact, to prevent themselves falling lower. An institute where these spectres can be laid will be of immense use in increasing timely emigration, — emigration of men who are not driven by despair. If the London artisan can see good photographs of the Australian and Canadian towns and settlements, and can notice around him the rich produce of the colonies (the sugar, the wool, the wood, the corn, the wine, the oil); if he can learn that men live there as they live here, that there are public-houses and Sunday-schools, and that he will not be daily expected to encounter naked savages; and if at the same time he can get intelligent advice and direction from competent instructors on the spot, — he will soon find his fears and dismal forebodings of colonial wretchedness die away.

But if the working-men are really to make use of the institute, for this or for the other purpose of political education, it will be utterly useless to place it in the West End. Working-men will not and can not travel for miles, at a considerable expense of money and comfort, to see a museum. If it is placed in a convenient situation, they will flock to it as eagerly as they do to Mr. Barnett's Easter exhibitions of pictures. If the institute is to do the good work it ought to do, and can do, it must,

be placed, if not geographically, at least morally, at the East End of the town; that is, it must be built in a poor quarter. Even in common fairness, the poor have a right to the site of the next museum. When the natural history collections were removed from the British museum to South Kensington, a great opportunity was missed. There is no taste more common among the poor than the taste for natural history. Had the stuffed beasts and birds with which the people of the West End are so heartily, so naturally bored, been put up in Whitechapel, they would have been welcomed by streams of admirers. Such a mistake ought not to be made this time. Of course, the architects, the men of science, and the artists like to see ranges of imposing galleries, and consider the collections and the advantages of the site far more than they do the public that looks at them, or that pays for them. Even they, however, would relent if they realized how useful, how pleasure-giving, how healthful a triumph might be secured by placing the great collections of art and science within the reach of the poor. Practically, they cannot go to the collections, and so the collections should go to them wherever possible or reasonable. But the rich can go into the East End to see exhibitions, and the more they are compelled to go there, the better. Let them, by going to see the new institute, learn where the poor live in London, and let them realize the condition of life there, and discover how, though materially it is nothing like so awful as they fancy in their compassionate and sentimental moments, it is, as far as education, self-improvement, rational and healthful pleasure are concerned, far below any standard which we can be content with.

Although so much of this was written for English readers, its truths are of value in America.

#### *THE HEALTH OF NEW YORK DURING AUGUST.*

THE population of New York is estimated at 1,446,000. Of this number, 3,246 died in the month of August, a decrease of 952 deaths as compared with the preceding month. Among children under five years of age, 939 less deaths occurred than in July, while there was also a diminished mortality from diarrhoeal diseases, amounting to 677. Diphtheria proved fatal in 104 cases, as against 133 in July; and scarlet-fever caused but 15 deaths, a gain of 10 as compared with the preceding month. The week ending on the 28th is noteworthy as having no deaths recorded from scarlet-fever, which is a most remarkable incident in a city of a million and a half of people. The deaths from consumption

were 443, four more than are recorded for July. It will be seen from these figures that the health of New York is improving; and, unless the temperature and humidity of the early fall are unpropitious, we shall expect to see a gradual falling of the death-rate until winter sets in, when the deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs will so increase as to again augment it.

August was pre-eminently a cool month. The mean temperature was but 70.19° F. An examination of the record of temperature as far back as 1870 fails to show any August in which the mean was so low. The nearest approach to it was in 1874, when it was 70.25° F. In most of the years during the past decade the mean has been above 72° F., and in one year, 1877, reached 75.37° F. The maximum point attained by the mercury during the month was 90° F., at 4 P.M. of the 28th. In four of the past ten years the August temperature has been the same as this year. In 1884 and 1885 it was one degree higher, and in 1880 and 1883 one degree lower. 90° F. may be considered as the maximum temperature for August for the past ten years. The lowest recorded temperature this year was 53° F., at 3 A.M. of the 22d.

The rainfall of August, 1886, was also remarkable. Although some rain fell on six days of the month, the total amount was but .95 of an inch. From this it will be seen that the month was a very dry one. In but one year, 1881, since 1877, has the rainfall been so small. In 1885, 5.67 inches fell; and in the previous year, 1884, no less than 7.90 inches is recorded. The mean for ten years was 4.22 inches. July and August have been very noteworthy for the small quantity of rain which has fallen.

#### *ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTS.*

THE Proceedings of the third annual convention of this association, which was held in Washington on the 26th and 27th of August, have just been issued as Bulletin No. 12 of the chemical division of the department of agriculture.

The benefit which has been derived from these meetings of the chemists of the country, who are engaged in the analysis and control of commercial fertilizers, has been very marked; and the adoption of a uniform official method of working has not only resulted in greater agreement among official chemists, but has also, by informing the analysts employed by those manufacturing fertilizers, of the methods in use, brought about greater harmony between the manufacturers and the control stations.

The results in this direction having been so sat-